

Chapter 11 – Goals, Objectives, & Policies

This chapter establishes goals and objectives to provide guidelines for decisions-makers and to address the issues faced by the City of Pierre. The following definitions should be used to understand the function of goals, objectives, and policy guidelines:

Goal: Long-term end toward which programs or activities are directed. Goals are general and include no date of completion.

Objective: A specific, measurable, intermediate end that is achievable, sometimes measurable, and marks progress towards a goal. Objectives are action-orientated statements demonstrating the means to achieve a goal.

Policy Guideline: General principles creating the course of action or way in which programs and activities are coordinated to achieve an identified goal or objective, supporting the action of the objectives.

Transportation Goal

The City of Pierre will have a safe and efficient multi-modal transportation system that meets the mobility needs of the traveling public, is cost effective, and minimizes negative impacts on adjacent land uses.

Objectives:

1. Establish and maintain access management standards which meet or exceed the SD DOT guidelines for urban arterial and collector roadways.
2. Complete access management plans along State Highways 34 and 1804, and US Hwy 14/83, and encourage Hughes County to do so also.
3. Preserve right-of-way for all arterial and collector roadways by establishing appropriate minimum standards within the City's subdivision regulations.
4. Provide multi-use paths as part of greenway or open space corridors wherever feasible and consistent with ongoing parks and recreation planning efforts.
5. Encourage street layouts which minimize overall street length while reducing site grading, drainage and storm sewer requirements to the greatest extent possible.
6. Maintain the effectiveness of truck routes.
7. Provide traffic control measures consistent with standard traffic engineering practice.
8. Establish collector and arterial roadways in subdivisions in a manner which is consistent with the roadway layouts proposed in the comprehensive plan.
9. Require road grades and drainage of proposed subdivisions be designed with consideration for continuity with surrounding and future developments.
10. Prepare and implement a local highway noise program, including appropriate regulations, that makes Pierre eligible for SDDOT technical assistance.
11. Design residential street layouts to minimize overall street lengths and the quantity of site grading required.
12. Avoid cul-de-sacs in new developments to minimize street maintenance challenges and costs.
13. Prevent heavy traffic on minor residential streets by requiring a system of collector streets between adjacent subdivisions.
14. Secure sufficient rights-of-way with development to accommodate the City's major street system, including a perimeter system of arterial streets.
15. Discourage driveway entrances onto highways and other major roads where locations may result in traffic hazards or impede traffic flow.
16. Establish and protect major transportation corridors and systems, such as the airport, from encroachment by incompatible land uses.
17. Promote, improve and protect the aesthetic value of highway entrances and the airport entrance/exit to the City of Pierre.

Land Use Goal

The City of Pierre will promote compact development and redevelopment while providing adequate land for present residential and economic needs.

Objectives:

1. Establish a new mixed-use zoning district for downtown Pierre to encourage redevelopment, increased residential density, and increased economic activity.
2. Promote the walkability of downtown Pierre.
3. Establish an airport safety zone overlay district to minimize the development intensity at appropriate locations near the runways.
4. Reserve the land in Sections 21 and 22 for future urban scale development.
5. Encourage the land in Sections 20 and 29 be preserved for agricultural and open space uses.
6. Encourage downtown property enhancement through joint public-private partnership programs and consider implementing a Main Street program.
7. Promote only compact, contiguous growth along the city's fringe to promote an efficient use of present and future public investments in roads, utilities and other services.
8. Maintain an adequate supply of development land with the urban service area at all times.
9. Guide new development with urban design amenities to prevent costly infrastructure upgrades or retrofitting in the future.
10. Prevent unlimited outward expansion by maintaining urban growth boundaries with provisions for phased annexation and extension of streets and utilities.
11. Require adequate provision of city services before development is approved in future growth areas.
12. Beyond the urban service boundary, encourage agriculture to remain the primary land use activity and minimize the cost of providing future public services and facilities by maintaining a rural population density and preserving agricultural lands.
13. Establish an area wide approach to cooperatively manage future growth including state government, city and county governments, school districts and other public utility providers.
14. Preclude development in areas that are environmentally unsuitable for buildings or septic systems, and protect major drainageways, floodplains, steep slopes, Pierre Shale soils or other natural areas from incompatible development which may result in environmental problems.
15. Secure suitable park, school and fire station sites ahead of development within growth areas.
16. Encourage apartment, office and institutional uses as alternatives to commercial strip development along major streets.
17. Avoid scattered or strip commercial and industrial development outside the urban service area and direct such uses into existing developed locations where adequate services are available including major street access, and proper water and sewer systems.
18. Require appropriate screening and landscaping of commercial, industrial and multiple family housing structures and facilities.
19. Prohibit spot location of mobile homes by requiring that mobile homes be located in designated and properly developed mobile home parks.

Utilities Goal

The City of Pierre will maintain sustainable utilities in order to minimize costs to its occupants while ensuring adequate services for present needs and for economic development.

Objectives:

1. Minimize or eliminate the subsidy of new development by taxpayers.
2. Program future expenditures through the Capital Improvement Program, including a potential water treatment facility, construction of relief sewers, and an upgraded SCADA system.
3. Initiate a study to explore the issues and benefits of relocating the baling operation to the Pierre Landfill.
4. Implement a formal inspection system and a warranty period prior to the city accepting infrastructure and utility improvements.
5. Discourage the individual metering of private utility systems.

Parks and Recreation Goal

The City of Pierre will provide recreational facilities and open space to enhance the quality of life of its citizens and its visitors, and to enhance the image of Pierre as a great place to live, work and play.

Objectives:

1. Integrate park and open space areas into residential neighborhoods whenever feasible.
2. Encourage continued utilization of areas incompatible with other development activities for parks and open space.
3. Develop potentially nuisance generating recreational facilities in areas compatible with such uses.
4. Provide adequate vehicular access and parking facilities for recreation facilities which will generate significant traffic, with proper design for pedestrian access and safety.
5. Encourage development of recreation areas adjacent to and, where feasible, for joint use with future expansion of school or other public facilities.
6. Expand the opportunities to partner with federal, state, local, and private funding sources to maximize the financial resources that can assist with establishing and maintaining recreational facilities.
7. Develop a park dedication ordinance to provide for fair and appropriate development of active and passive park space.
8. Implement the recommendations of the 2005 Blue Ribbon Panel Study.
9. Preserve and enhance the outstanding natural features of the City and surrounding areas.
10. Provide a mixture of both active and passive recreation facilities, suitable for use by all age groups, with due consideration for adequate access and parking safety.
11. Maintain the river greenway corridor for public use and protect it from encroachment by incompatible uses.
12. Preclude development of land which is environmentally unsuitable for construction by retaining floodplains, drainageways, and other significant natural areas as open space.

Natural and Cultural Resource Goal

The City of Pierre will preserve its natural and cultural heritage in order to enhance the quality of life of its citizens and its visitors, and to enhance the image of Pierre as a great place to live, work and play.

Objectives:

1. Encourage the preservation/restoration of historic sites, buildings, and historic architectural resources.
2. Preserve old growth trees.
3. Investigate methods to reduce or eliminate, and/or prevent invasive plant and animal species
4. Continue to support eco-tourism and other outdoor recreational activities.
5. Continue to support the City's role as a center for statewide cultural events.

Housing Goal

The City of Pierre will have a wide degree of housing choices that responds to an increasingly diverse housing market.

Objectives:

1. Encourage renovation or replacement of currently sub-standard housing units, and redevelopment of blighted areas.
2. Encourage developments that include a mixture of housing sizes and architectural styles.
3. Provide suitable transition zones between residential areas and higher intensity adjacent non-residential uses.
4. Encourage development of higher density residential development in downtown Pierre.
5. Encourage a mixture of housing options in downtown Pierre.
6. Encourage development of a wide price range of housing units, especially for moderate and low income groups.
7. Take advantage of state and federal programs which support affordable housing
8. Provide opportunities for well managed mobile home parks.